

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please enter the new drawing sheet showing Figure 50A.

REMARKS

Claims 37-48 remain pending in the application. The status of pending claim 48 is not clear since it was not examined. Claims 49-60 are newly added.

Applicant's invention provides interactive television programming to viewers. A television programming receiver receives a multiplexed signal consisting of a program signal and a structure signal, (Application, Page 90, Lines 23-24). The program signal consists largely of television programming content while the structure signal contains information for generating interactive display objects such as panels, boxes, buttons and text that allow viewers to interact with their television. A signal separation unit 5012 separates the multiplexed signals for further processing by an interactive screen (IS) generation unit 5014. The IS generation unit 5014 receives the signals, processes them and displays them on an interactive screen to viewers. The IS generation unit also receives data from a viewer operated remote control 6501. The viewer uses the remote control 6501 to interact with the television set through the interactive display objects presented on the television screen.

The Office action objected to the drawings asserting the drawing did not show the "first graphical picture generation means", "the second graphical picture generation means" or the "interactive manipulation means", (Office Action, Page 2, Lines 3-8). The application has been amended to incorporate Figure 50A to illustrate these features. No new matter has been entered.

Figure 50A shows the signal separation unit 5012, the RM signal receipt unit 5011, and the IS generation unit 5014 of Figure 50 and the remote control 6501 of Figure 65. The radio frequency relationship of the remote control 6501 of Figure 65 and the RM signal receipt unit 5011 of Figure 50 now shown in Figure 50A is described in the specification, (Application, Page 101, Lines 21-23). Also shown in Figure 50A are the individual components of the IS generation

unit 5014 as described in the specification, (Application, Page 92, Lines 9-18). The IS generation unit 5014 includes a first receipt unit 5050, a second receipt unit 5052, a process unit 5054, a storage unit 5056, and a display unit 5058, (Application, Page 92, Lines 9-18).

The first graphical generation means includes the first receipt unit 5050, the process unit 5054, the storage unit 5056, and the display unit 5058 of the IS generation unit 5014. The second graphical generation means includes the second receipt unit 5052, the process unit 5054, the storage unit 5056, and the display unit 5058. The interactive generation means includes the remote control 6501 and the RM signal generation unit 5016.

Claims 37 to 47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Young* (U.S. Pat. No. 5,479,268).

Young discloses a user interface for a television schedule system, (*Young*, Abstract). The television schedule system consists of an array of irregular cells which vary in length corresponding to different program lengths of one half hour to one and one half hours, (*Young*, Abstract). The array is arranged in three columns each column one half hour in duration with twelve rows of television listings, (*Young*, Abstract). Information to populate the array is received by a programmable tuner 202 from an antenna 220 or a cable input 205, (*Young*, Column 12, Lines 53-55). The tuner output feeds a vertical blanking interval (VBI) decoder 222, such as a closed caption decoder or a high speed teletext decoder, (*Young*, Column 12, Lines 56-58). The TV signal is decoded and parsed by the VBI decoder into character strings and stored in the schedule memory 232, (*Young*, Column 12, Lines 60-65).

Claims 37-47 recites “signal receipt means for receiving a signal transmitted from said program transmitter, said signal being a multiplex signal including a program and data specifying a structure of the graphical interactive picture”. The Office Action asserts that *Young* teaches

data specifying a structure of the graphical interactive picture, (Office Action, Page 3, Lines 12-14). However, the cited passage only discloses that the signal is decoded by the VBI decoder and stored in schedule memory 232, (*Young*, Column 12 Lines 60-65). *Young*'s signal does not specify a structure for a graphical interactive picture. *Young*'s structure is predefined with television viewing information shown in three columns and twelve rows, (*Young*, Figure 1, Column 4, Lines 43-45).

The recited function is important because this feature provides for a dynamic interactive viewing experience. The structural data can include class definitions, panel definitions, box definitions, action definitions, display candidate information, as well as shape definition, (Application, Page 92 Line 21 – Page 93 Line 3). The structural data is used by the IS generation unit to generate an interactive picture screen. The interactive picture screen generated with the received structural data provides the user with a dynamic interactive experience with the screen's structure as well as programming adapting and changing according to a user's inputs.

For the above stated reasons, Applicant submits claims 37-47 recite an undisclosed limitation and feature and thus are patentable over *Young*.

Claims 49-59 are newly added and recite a signal receipt unit 5050, a signal separation unit 5012, a graphical interactive picture generation unit 5014, a display unit (Fig 64), a storage unit 5056, an interactive manipulation unit 6501, a basic action storage unit 5018, a receipt decode unit 5050, a process unit 5054, a display control unit 5058, an input manipulation acceptance unit 5016, an interactive signal transmission unit 6501, an interactive signal interpretation unit, an information transmission unit 5017, an information record unit 7613 (Application, Figures 50, 50A, 64, 65, 76). Written support may also be found in the

specification in the description of the eighth embodiment, (Application, Page 89, Line 17 – Page 103, Line 7).

In view of the amendments to the drawings and the above remarks, it is believed the case is now in condition for allowance and early notification of the same is requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would assist in the prosecution of the matter, the undersigned attorney can be contacted at the listed telephone number.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patent, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on July 26, 2006.

By: Sharon Farnus

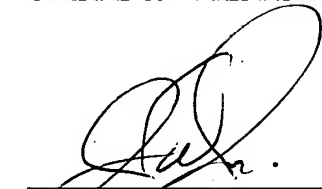


Signature

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Very truly yours,

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